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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A package control unit for controlling a package mounted in a network element, comprising:
- a package information obtaining section for 5 obtaining information regarding the package and generating a package information table at the time of starting;

an operational information obtaining section for obtaining information regarding the package regularly and generating an operational information table at the time of operating network elements;

a change information detecting section for detecting change information by comparing the package information table and the operational information table; and

a package operation setting performing section for performing operation setting on the package on the basis of the change information.

- 2. The package control unit according to claim 1, 20 wherein the package operation setting performing section performs at least one of the setting of the activation control and the setting of the supervisory control of the package as the operation setting.
- 25 3. The package control unit according to claim 1, further comprising a link information table storing section for storing a link information table regarding

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links which connect the network elements.

- 4. The package control unit according to claim 3, wherein the package operation setting performing section automatically performs line setting on all of network elements relating to paths which will influence the package on the basis of the link information table.
- 5. The package control unit according to claim 1,

 10 further comprising a package mounting state judging section for judging whether the package is mounted normally or erroneously and informing of the judgment thereof.
- 6. The package control unit according to claim 1, wherein the package operation setting performing section chooses whether to perform the operation setting or not.
- 7. A package control method for controlling a 20 package mounted in a network element, comprising the steps of:

obtaining information regarding the package and generating a package information table at the time of starting;

obtaining information regarding the package regularly and generating an operational information table at the time of operating the network element;

detecting change information by comparing the package information table and the operational information table; and

performing operation setting on the package on the 5 basis of the change information.

- 8. The package control method according to claim 7, wherein at least one of the setting of the activation control and the setting of the supervisory control of the package is performed as the operation setting.
- 9. The package control method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of storing a link information table regarding links which connect the network elements.

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10. The package control method according to claim 9, wherein line setting is automatically performed on all of network elements relating to paths which will influence the package on the basis of the link information table.

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11. The package control method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of judging whether the package is mounted normally or erroneously and informing of a judgment.

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12. The package control method according to claim 7, wherein whether to perform the operation setting or not is